JUMP START SERIES

A TASTE OF WHAT'S NEW IN JAPAN

U19

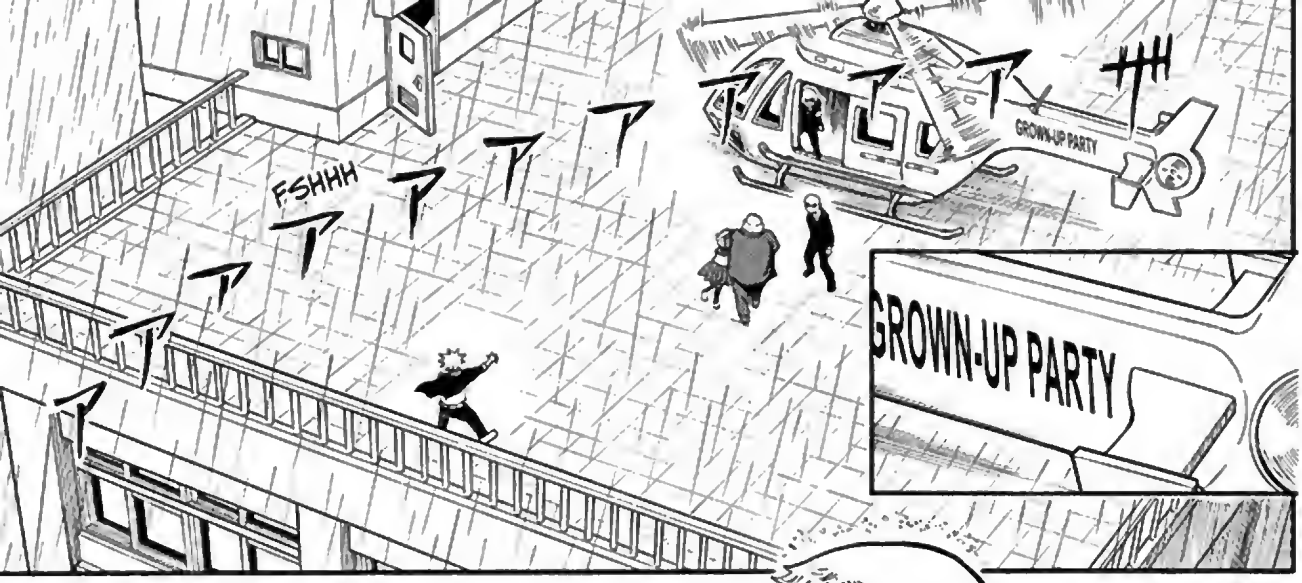
BY YUJI KIMURA

In the year 2036, in response to the lax education policies of the 2000s, society has overcompensated and become extremely harsh and militaristic. Children face a bleak day-to-day existence with the instillation of an elitist social-ranking system, domineering teachers and rampant corporal punishment. But rumors of a mysterious underground rebel movement fueled by kids with superpowers provide a much-needed glimmer of hope.

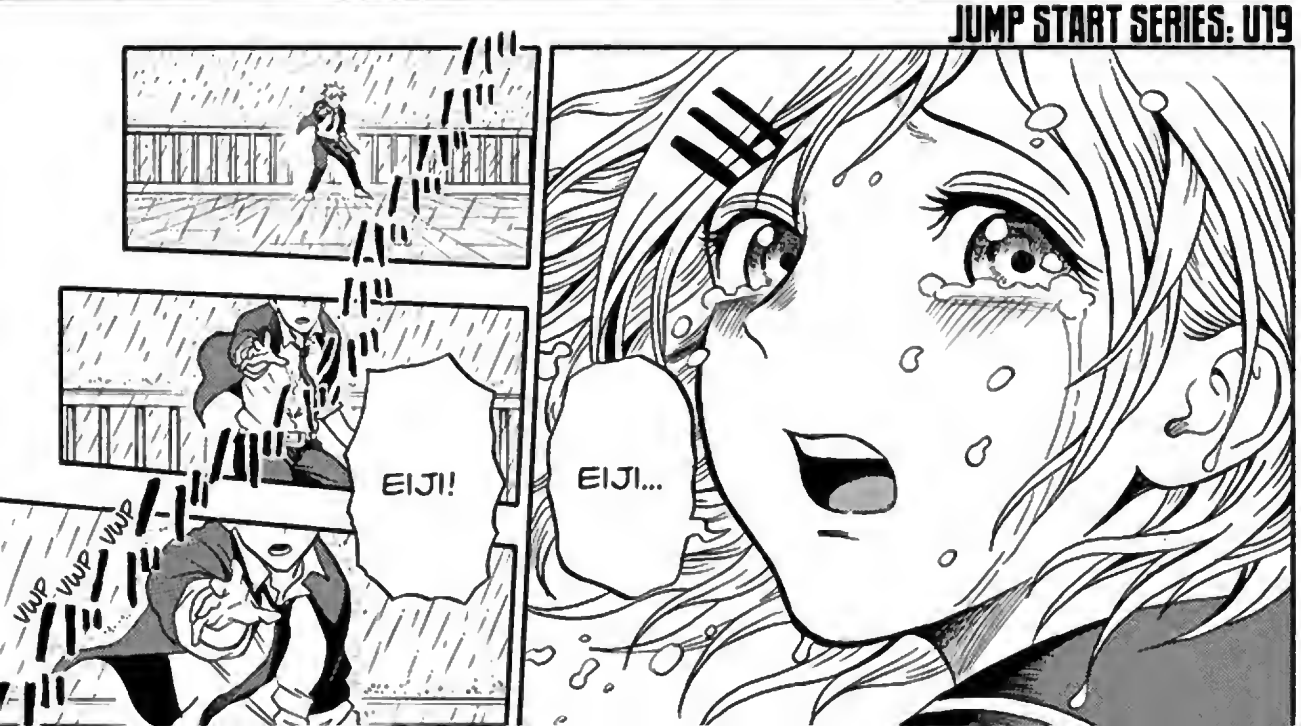
PREVIOUSLY IN *U19*:

In these dark times of suppression, bottom-ranked childhood friends Eiji Kudo and Akari Tsukino find comfort in each other's company. But everything changes when a compulsory genetic screening reveals that Akari actually has a super-elite triple-S rank. Arrangements are quickly made to transfer Akari to a special school. But when Eiji steps in to profess his love for Akari in order to prevent them from being separated, he is shot by a high-ranking Grown-Up Party official. Under such physical and mental duress, Eiji's body is mysteriously transformed, and a needle and thread ominously emerge from his finger…

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK IN THE **WEEKLY SURVEY!**


FSHHH
GROWN-UP PARTY
GROWN-UP PARTY

VWP VWP VWP
GET IN, MISS AKARI TSUKINO!!
COME NOW...
STOP GIVING US SUCH A HARD TIME.
...


EIJI!
VWP VWP VWP
EIJI...

JUMP START!
A TASTE OF WHAT'S NEW IN JAPAN
U-19
UNDER 19
BY YUJI KIMURA
CHAPTER 3:
LIBIDO

?!
GSH
ガシ!
ARE YOU STILL WHINING?!
...CAME OUT OF MY FINGER?!
DEP...
ポヲ...!
A NEEDLE...
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
HAH HAH HAH!
はははは!
THANK YOU, MR. TANI!
TANI !!!
I'M SORRY ABOUT MY STUDENT HERE!!
YOU!! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
THINK ABOUT IT, KUDO!!
?!
THIS IS A GOOD THING FOR TSUKINO!!
GROWN-UP RANKINGS MEAN EVERY-THING IN THIS DAY AND AGE!
COME ALONG NOW!
BUT THE GROWN-UP PARTY IS OFFERING HER AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETELY CHANGE THAT!
TSUKINO ISN'T THAT SMART. SHE'S BOUND TO BE RANK D!!
YOU WANNA GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR FRIEND'S HAPPINESS?!

HMPH...
OH BOY...
HAPPINESS ?!
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
?!
FWP...
YOU GROWN-UPS ARE JUST DOING WHAT SUITS YOU!!!
IS HE GONNA ...?!
AW...
LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE ALL WET...
SCRB
ゴシ
?
WHAT ?!
FWF
?!
...?

FWP
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?
MISS AKARI TSUKINO POSSESSES SPECIAL GENES!
THE GROWN-UP PARTY WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HER SAFETY AND...
...GUARANTEE HER THE BEST LIVING CONDITIONS AND EDUCATION!!
SPLISH
YOU CAN'T EVEN PROTECT HER FROM THE RAIN...
I DOUBT YOU COULD DO ANY-THING TO STOP HER TEARS.
FSHHH
!!
HAH HAH HAH! THAT'S RIGHT!!
LISTEN TO HIM, KUDO!!
TSUKINO'S CRYING BECAUSE...
...YOU'RE A THORN IN HER SIDE!!
?!
"I'M FINALLY FREE FROM MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND WHO THINKS I LIKE HIM!!"
CAN'T YOU SEE THOSE ARE TEARS OF RELIEF?!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, TSUKINO?! TELL THIS FOOL!!
TELL HIM HE'S NOTHING BUT A BURDEN TO YOU!!!

IT SHOWS HOW MUCH HE LIKES ME!!
IT'S WAY BETTER THAN NOT BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY!!
I LIKE THE BURDEN !!!
HOW I FEEL, WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY...
HOW CAN YOU DECIDE THAT FOR ME?!
...!!
IF YOU CAN BE WITH SOMEBODY YOU LOVE...
...THEN RANK DOESN'T MATTER
I'M HAPPY...
...JUST BEING WITH YOU, EIJI !!!
...!!!

AKARI!!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
WHAT AM I HESITATING FOR?!
HEH !!
GRB!
GET HER ON BOARD !!
YES, SIR!!
THAT'S ENOUGH!!
!!
SHE REALLY IS STUPID!!
BE GRATEFUL, KUDO!!
YOU'RE FREE NOW TOO... FROM HAVING TO TAKE CARE OF THAT IDIOT.
GLARE!!
DON'T TALK ABOUT AKARI LIKE THAT!!!
GRRR...
SHUT UP, TANI!!!
WHAT ...?
CLNK!

ARGH?!
ARR...
ARGH !!!
AARGH!!
?!!
OO-ORGH!!!
??
?
GRUH ?!
ZWP!
?!!
CRASH!
ZWP!
HM?

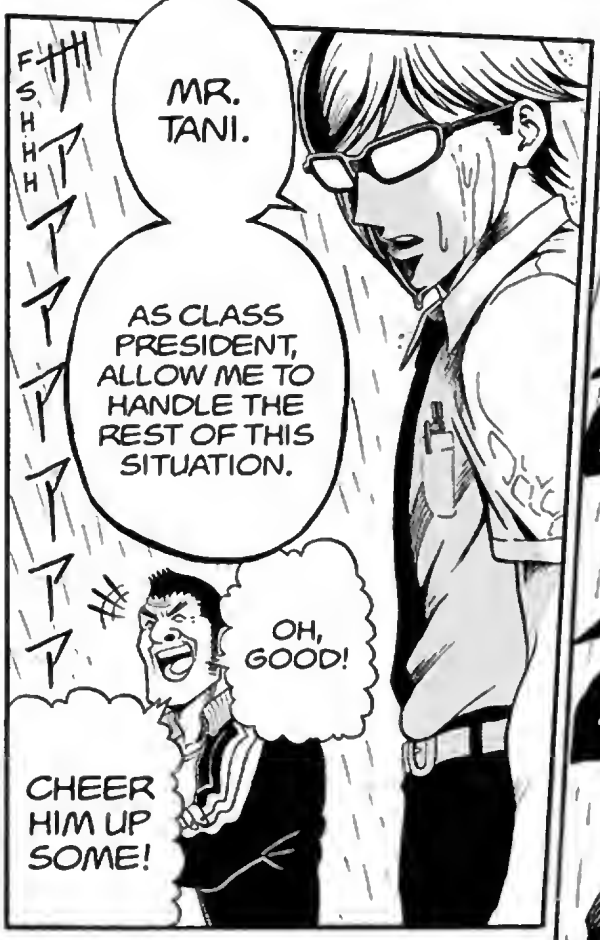
FWP
MMM ?!!
MM?
M...
シェルシェル
シェルシェルシェル
ZP ZP ZP ZP
UP
MM ?!
WH...
WHAT THE...?!
?!
MMM ?!!
TMP
BECAUSE ...
VWP VWP VWP
...I TOLD HIM TO SHUT UP?!
SNCH!
HIS MOUTH IS ALL SEWN UP?!
チ!

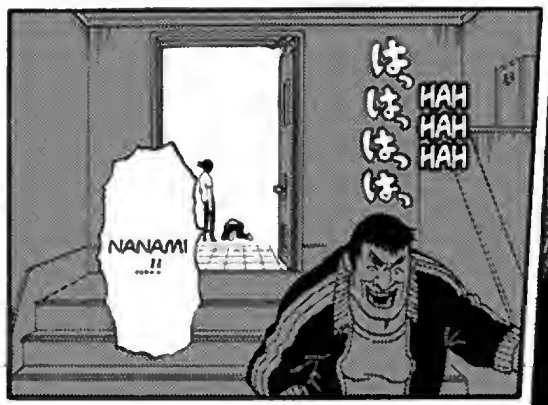
VWP VWP VWP
AKARI !!!
!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS RIGHT NOW...
IT'S LIKE THE RED STRING OF FATE!!
BUT ...!!!
FWP
CONNECT WITH AKARI!!!
GO !!!

?!
THWAK!!
OW...
WHAT THE--?!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MR. TANI?
DID SOMETHING STRANGE JUST HAPPEN?
TWITCH!
ZSHAA
FWP...

OH, RIGHT...
UGH ...
NNGH ...
THE GROUND IS...
...SLIPPERY FROM THE RAIN.
OH! NANAMI!!
YOU MUST'VE HIT YOUR HEAD.
KUDO HAD THIS WEIRD NEEDLE AND...
FSHHH
AKARI!!!
UA...
UAAH ...!!
NO...
FWP
NO!!
FWP
WHAT ...?

AAAH
HAH HAH HAH
WE BECOME RESPECTABLE GROWN-UPS THROUGH SEPARATIONS AND GOOD-BYES!!
STOP CRYING, KUDO!!


FSHHH
MR. TANI.
AS CLASS PRESIDENT, ALLOW ME TO HANDLE THE REST OF THIS SITUATION.
OH, GOOD!
CHEER HIM UP SOME!


はっ、はっ、はっ、
HAH HAH HAH
NANAMI ...!!

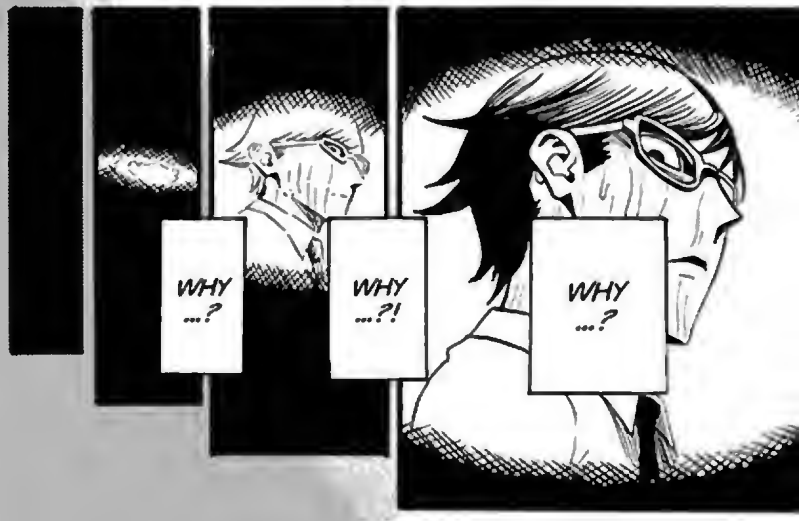
AAAH

LISTEN...
I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.
FWP!
WHY'D YOU GET IN THE WAY?!!
WHAT ?!
DON'T USE THEM SENSELESSLY IN FRONT OF THE GROWN-UPS!
YOUR LIBIDO POWERS HAVE AWAKENED...
WHY DID YOU GET IN MY...
AKARI MEANT EVERYTHING TO ME!!
SO WHY...
BUT AKARI...
YOU'RE LIKE A LOYAL DOG, ALWAYS KISSING UP TO GROWN-UPS!!
GRB
STOP TALKING NONSENSE!!!
A NERD LIKE YOU...

...
THIS IS GOING NOWHERE.
WHUD
SWEET DREAMS.

WHY...?
DAMMIT ...
THUD

4-1
WHY, WHY, WHY!
YOU SURE ASK A LOT OF QUESTIONS, EIJI.


WHY ...?
WHY ...?!
WHY ...?

YOU SNOTTY LITTLE BRAT!!!
WHAT...?
HUH?!
ARE YOU TESTING ME?!
WELL, BECAUSE...
I DON'T GET THE TEXTBOOK'S EXPLANATION.
CAN YOU EXPLAIN IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS?
AKARI WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO UNDERSTOOD ME...
YOU DID NOTHING WRONG, EIJI!
ASKING QUESTIONS IS ACTUALLY A GOOD THING!
YEAH... IT WAS ALWAYS LIKE THAT...
AKARI...
HEY?
CAN YOU DO YOUR HOMEWORK BY YOURSELF?
BYE-BYE! バイバーイ!
AREN'T WE GOING HOME TOGETHER?
WHAT?

スカ
HYUU...
NOOO !!!
TOO LATE! ♪
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT!!
HEY ...
OOH ...!
?!
GLAK ガタ GLAK
FINE, BUT...
I WANT A RE-MATCH!!!
WHAAAAT?!
MAYBE YOU JUST SUCK.
WHY ARE YOU SO GOOD?!
AKARI ...
GCHK ガタ
キョロ GLANCE
キョロ GLANCE
WAIT A SECOND ...
HOLD ON...
...?
URRR !!! あぬあぁ!!!
THE GROWN-UP PARTY IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BANNED THEM...
A VIDEO GAME?
...
CAN I SLEEP IF I WIN?
YOU'RE ALREADY HALF-ASLEEP ON THE FLOOR!!!

WHERE AM I?!
WHOA !!!
!!
...
SLP ...
ズズ...
HE'S AWAKE!!!
GASP!
ヒィィ!
FWP
NEMU! NEMU!!
SHOULDN'T YOU BE PROTECTING ME?
C'MON...
BUT, YOU KNOW...
MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO GET NANAMI.
!
NANAMI ?!
CHK
LET'S PUT AWAY THE CONSOLE FIRST!!
OR HE'LL BREAK IT AGAIN!!!

YOU CALLED?
!!
NOT YET !!!
キャアアアアア!!!
AARGH!!!
YOU ... YOU KNOW ...
HMM...
WE WERE JUST WELCOMING OUR NEW FRIEND HERE...
SO YOU'LL PROTECT A VIDEO GAME, HUH?
I DON'T CARE.
YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT WAS TO GET IT SHIPPED FROM OVERSEAS?!!
NEMU! WHY ARE YOU KICKING ME TOO?!!
...
HMPH !!!
STOMP!
FWMP
NO! NOT MY PS4!!!
WHO ...
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
...
NANAMI'S ...
...NOT ACTING LIKE HIS USUAL SELF EITHER.

EXPLAIN WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!!!
HEY!!
I SEE KIDS FROM OTHER CLASSES HERE TOO!
WHAT HAPPENED AFTER--?!
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?!
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO TO ME?!
ACTUALLY, WHERE AM I?!
...QUALIFIED TO JOIN US.
...BECAUSE YOU'RE NOW...
CREAK...
CALM DOWN, KUDO.
I BROUGHT YOU HERE...
TO JOIN YOU??
...

YOU WANT AKARI BACK, DON'T YOU?
?!
O...
OF COURSE !!!
ﾄﾝﾌﾟ!
THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY.
JOIN US...
ﾋﾟﾝ
TP
WELCOME !!!
WE ARE GARAGE KIDS BRANCH 5!!
...AND BRING DOWN THE GROWN-UP PARTY!!
WHAT ?!!
LIKE THE URBAN LEGEND?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
GARAGE KIDS?!!
WHAT IF THERE ARE KIDS TODAY THAT ARE PLOTTING TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT ...?
?!
WHAT ...?!
THAT'S THE END OF THIS JUMP START RUN. DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT THE WEEKLY SURVEY!